

years 2004-2005 through 2008-2009 including interest at the net rate of return generated by the State Treasurer's Short Term Investment Fund.

SECTION 2.2.(h) The General Assembly finds that over the last two fiscal years, the cost of the Medicaid program has increased over one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000). The downturn in the economy has caused an unforeseeable increase in the number of persons eligible for the program. Even with the significant expansion funds appropriated for the increased costs, transfers of funds to meet obligations for the 2001-2002 fiscal year, and significant cost-savings measures imposed by the General Assembly and the Department of Health and Human Services, Medicaid will still need additional State funds next year to cover increased costs.

The General Assembly further finds that due to the downturn in the economy and the loss of jobs in various sectors of the economy, the State must undertake various economic initiatives.

Funds transferred pursuant to this section shall be used only for Medicaid and for economic initiatives.

Notwithstanding G.S. 143-16.4(a2), of the funds credited to the Tobacco Trust Account from the Master Settlement Agreement pursuant to Section 6(2) of S.L. 1999-2 during the 2002-2003 fiscal year, the sum of thirty-eight million dollars (\$38,000,000) shall be transferred from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Budget Code 23703 (Tobacco Trust Fund) to the State Controller to be deposited in Nontax Budget Code 19978 (Intra State Transfers) to support General Fund appropriations for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

Notwithstanding G.S. 143-16.4(a1), of the funds credited to the Health Trust Account from the Master Settlement Agreement pursuant to Section 6(2) of S.L. 1999-2 during the 2002-2003 fiscal year, the sum of forty million dollars (\$40,000,000) shall be transferred from the Department of State Treasurer, Budget Code 23460 (Health and Wellness Trust Fund) to the State Controller to be deposited in Nontax Budget Code 19978 (Intra State Transfers) to support General Fund appropriations for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

Notwithstanding G.S. 147-86.30(c), the Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission may transfer up to eighteen million dollars (\$18,000,000) from the Fund Reserve created in G.S. 147-86.30 to the Health and Wellness Trust Fund nonreserved funds to be expended in accordance with G.S. 147-86.30(d) during the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

SECTION 2.2.(i) The reimbursement from the Insurance Regulatory Fund to the General Fund includes an increase of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) for the 2002-2003 fiscal year for the costs and expenses incurred by the Department of Justice as provided in Section 15.5 of this act.

SECTION 2.2.(j) G.S. 7A-11 reads as rewritten:

"§ 7A-11. Clerk of the Supreme Court; salary; bond; fees; oath.

The clerk of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the Supreme Court to serve at its pleasure. The annual salary of the clerk shall be fixed by the Administrative Officer of the Courts, subject to the approval of the Supreme Court. The clerk may appoint assistants in the number and at the salaries fixed by the Administrative Officer of the Courts. The clerk shall perform such duties as the Supreme Court may assign, and shall be bonded to the State, for faithful performance of duty, in the same manner as the clerk of the superior court, and in such amount as the Administrative Officer of the Courts shall determine. He shall adopt a seal of office, to be approved by the Supreme Court. A fee bill for services rendered by the clerk shall be fixed by rules of the Supreme Court,